

Response to March 28, 2007 Non-Final Office Action

The references below were of record in a patent application no. 09/903,033 owned by the current assignee. That application's abstract is set forth below to provide the Examiner with an indication of the subject matter of that application and, accordingly, an indication of the nature of the references:

Abstract: A method for entertaining individuals according to a community having similar tastes. Information derived from user accounts form the basis of a community and collateral preferences allow other subscribing individuals to enjoy the benefit of wider-ranging tastes according to the preferences expressed by the other members of the community. Additionally, assuming that individuals sharing one preference in common may be likely to share others, the present method allows those who choose to listen to the "fan station" the ability to enjoy similar music or other data streams according to preferences expressed by the fan community as a whole.

Patent Documents

<u>Document Number</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Document Number</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>
5,404,505	04/04/95	Frank H. Levinson	6,246,672	06/12/01	Leon Lumelsky
5,616,876	07/01/97	Jonathan C. Cluts	6,438,579	08/20/02	Benjamin F. Hosken
5,758,257	05/26/98	Frederick Herz, et al.	EP 0 847 156 A2	09/12/97	Robert L. Wolfe
5,790,935	08/04/98	David W. Payton	GB 2,306,869	11/03/95	Patrik Garten
5,842,010	11/24/98	Ravi Kumar Jain, et al.	WO 1999/27681	06/03/99	Steven D. Leeke, et al.
5,926,207	07/20/99	Mark F. Vaughan, et al.	WO 1999/43111	08/26/99	James Logan, et al.
6,020,883	02/01/00	Frederick Herz, et al.	WO 2001/35667 A1	05/17/01	Jeffrey Boulter, et al.
6,192,340	02/20/01	Max Abecassis			

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Ian Goldberg, Steven D. Gribble, David Wagner, Eric A. Brewer "The Ninja Jukebox" October 14, 1999

MusicMatch Literature downloaded from web.archive.org - 7 pages total

RealNetworks Literature downloaded from web.archive.org - 16 pages total

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The references below were of record in a patent application no. 10/177,643 owned by the current assignee. That application's abstract is set forth below to provide the Examiner with an indication of the subject matter of that application and, accordingly, an indication of the nature of the references:

Abstract: A method, system, and computer program product allow users to skip and/or to fast-forward through media items such as songs, while limiting the extent to which skipping is allowed in order to maintain conformance with sound performance complement restrictions such as those specified by the Digital Millennium Copyright Act. If the user requests a skip that may result in a DMCA violation, the skip is disallowed and the request is denied. Playlists are constructed so that the sound recording performance complement limitations are applied to a longer time period than the period specified in the DMCA, the longer time period being defined by adding an "excess time" to the normal DMCA period. If the user attempts to skip a song or song portion that would cause the aggregated skipped amount to exceed the excess time, the skip is disallowed.

Patent Documents

<u>Document Number</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Document Number</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>
4,384,329	05/17/83	Rosenbaum, et al.	6,490,553	12/03/02	Van Thong, et al.
5,182,708	01/26/93	Ejiri	6,889,383	05/03/05	Jarman
5,371,807	12/06/94	Register, et al.	2001/0042107	11/15/01	Palm
6,009,382	12/28/99	Martino, et al.	2001/0042109	11/15/01	Bolas, et al.
6,131,082	10/10/00	Hargrave, III, et al.	2002/0002039	01/03/02	Qureshey, et al.
6,154,773	11/28/00	Roberts, et al.	2002/0004839	01/10/02	Wine, et al.
6,161,132	12/12/00	Roberts, et al.	2002/0007418	01/17/02	Hegde, et al.
6,167,369	12/26/00	Schulze	2002/0010789	01/24/02	Lord
6,222,980	04/24/01	Asai, et al.	2002/0013852	01/31/02	Janik
6,249,810	06/19/01	Kiraly	2002/0152204	10/17/02	Ortega, et al.
6,292,795	09/18/01	Peters, et al.	2003/0007507	01/09/03	Doron Rajwan, et al.
6,370,315	04/09/02	Mizuno	JP 2001202368	07/27/01	Kitaura Keiko, et al.

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Ben J. Schafer, et al., "Recommender Systems In E-Commerce", Proceedings ACM Conference On Electronic Commerce, pp. 158-166, XP002199598, 1999

Connor Hayes, et al., Smart Radio - A Proposal, Technical Report TCD-CS-1999-24, Online! April 1999, pages 1-14, XP002279579, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland, Retrieved from the Internet: <URL:http://www.cs.tcd.ie/publications/tech-reports/reports.99/TCD-CS-1999-24.pdf>, retrieved on May 7, 2004

David Nichols, et al., Recommendation And Usage In The Digital Library, Technical Report Ref. CSEG/2/1997, Online! 1997, pages 1-15, XP002279577, Retrieved from the Internet <URL:ftp://ftp.comp.lancs.ac.uk/pub/reports/1997/CSEG.2.97.pdf>, retrieved on May 7, 2007

Shoshana Loeb, "Architecting Personalized Delivery Of Multimedia Information", Communications Of The ACM, vol. 25, no. 12, December 1992, pp. 39-50, XP002102709

Thomas Hoffman, et al., "Latent Class Models For Collaborative Filtering", Proceedings Of The Sixteenth International Joint Conference On Artificial Intelligence, IJCAI 99, Stockholm, Sweden, July 31 -August 6, 1999, Online! pages 688-693, XPO02279578, Retrieved from the Internet <URL:http://www.cs.brown.edu/th/papers/HofmannPuzicha-IJCAI99.pdf>, retrieved on May 7, 2004

The references below were of record in a patent application no. 09/846,823 owned by the current assignee. That application's abstract is set forth below to provide the Examiner with an indication of the subject matter of that application and, accordingly, an indication of the nature of the references:

Abstract: A system, method, and computer program product discover relationships among items and recommend items based on the discovered relationships. The recommendations provided by the present invention are based on user profiles that take into account actual preferences of users, without requiring users to complete questionnaires. An improved binomial log likelihood ratio analysis technique is applied, to reduce adverse effects of overstatement of coincidence and predominance of best sellers. The invention may be used, for example, to generate track lists for a personalized radio station.

Patent Documents

<u>Document Number</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Document Number</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>
5,303,302	04/12/94	Burrows	6,438,579	08/20/02	Hosken
5,708,709	01/13/98	Rose	6,526,411	02/25/03	Ward
5,713,016	01/27/98	Hill	6,615,208	09/02/03	Behrens, et al.
5,764,235	06/09/98	Hunt, et al.	6,655,963	12/02/03	Horvitz, et al.
5,969,283	10/19/99	Looney, et al.	6,657,117	12/02/03	Weare, et al.
6,026,398	04/15/00	Brown, et al.	2003/0007507	01/09/03	Rajwan, et al.
6,064,980	05/16/00	Jacobi, et al.	2003/0093476	05/15/03	Syed
6,134,532	10/17/00	Lazarus, et al.	2003/0133453	07/17/03	Makishima, et al.
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Thomas Hoffman, et al., "Latent Class Models For Collaborative Filtering", Proceedings Of The Sixteenth International Joint Conference On Artificial Intelligence, IJCAI 99, Stockholm, Sweden, July 31 –August 6, 1999, Online! Pages 688-693, XPO02279578, Retrieved from the Internet<URL:<http://www.cs.brown.edu/th/papers/HofmannPuzicha-IJCAI99.pdf>>, retrieved on May 7, 2004

Tomek Strzalkowski, "Robust Text Processing in Automated Information Retrieval," Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences, pgs. 317 - 322

W. B. Croft and D. J. Harper, "Using Probabilistic Models of Document Retrieval Without Relevance Information," Department of Computer & Information Science, University of Massachusetts, pgs. 339 - 344

W. J. Hutchins, "The Concept of 'Aboutness' in Subject Indexing," presented April 18, 1977, Chapter 3 - Key Concepts, pgs. 93 - 97, Found in: Readings in Information Retrieval, Edited by Karen Sparck Jones and Peter Willett, Morgan Kaufmann Publishers, Inc., San Francisco, CA, 1997

The references below were of record in a patent application no. 10/401,940 owned by the current assignee. That application's abstract is set forth below to provide the Examiner with an indication of the subject matter of that application and, accordingly, an indication of the nature of the references:

Abstract: A system, method, and computer program product discover relationships among items and recommend items based on the discovered relationships. The recommendations provided by the present invention are based on user profiles that take into account actual preferences of users, without requiring users to complete questionnaires. An improved binomial log likelihood ratio analysis technique is applied, to reduce adverse effects of overstatement of coincidence and predominance of best sellers. The invention may be used, for example, to generate track lists for a personalized radio station.

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<u>Document Number</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Document Number</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>
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5,182,708	01/26/93	Ejiri	6,615,208	09/02/03	Behrens, et al.
5,303,302	04/12/94	Burrows	6,655,963	12/02/03	Horvitz, et al.
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6,161,132	12/12/00	Roberts, et al.	2003/0007507	01/09/03	Rajwan, et al.
6,167,369	12/26/00	Schulze	2003/0093476	05/15/03	Syed
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6,430,539	08/06/02	Lazarus, et al.	EP 1 050 833 A2	08/11/00	Lazarus, et al.
6,438,579	08/20/02	Hosken	JP 2001202368	07/27/01	Keiko, et al.

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Ben J. Schafer, et al., "Recommender Systems In E-Commerce", Proceedings ACM Conference On Electronic Commerce, pp. 158-166, XP002199598, 1999

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Gerard Salton, A. Wong and C.S. Yang, "A Vector Space Model for Automatic Indexing," Cornell University, pgs. 273 -280

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Karen Sparck Jones and Peter Willett (Editors), Chapter 3 - "Key Concepts," pgs. 85 - 92 Found in: Readings in Information Retrieval, Morgan Kaufmann Publishers, Inc., San Francisco, CA, 1997

Karen Sparck Jones, "Search Term Relevance Weighting Given Little Relevance Information," pgs. 329-338, (originally located in Journal of Documentation, Vol. 35, No. 1; March 1979, pgs. 30 - 48)

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S.E. Robertson, "The Probability Ranking Principle In IR," School of Library, Archive, Information Studies, University College of London, pgs. 281 - 286

S.E. Robertson and S. Walker, "Some Simple Effective Approximations to the 2 - Poisson Model for Probabilistic Weighted Retrieval," Centre for Interactive Systems Research, Department of Information Science, City University, Northampton Square, London, EC1V 0HB, U.K., pgs. 345 - 354

Shoshana Loeb, "Architecting Personalized Delivery Of Multimedia Information", Communications Of The ACM, vol. 25, no. 12, December 1992, pp. 39-50, XP002102709

Thomas Hoffman, et al., "Latent Class Models For Collaborative Filtering", Proceedings Of The Sixteenth International Joint Conference On Artificial Intelligence, IJCAI 99, Stockholm, Sweden, July 31 -August 6, 1999, Online! pages 688-693, XPO02279578, Retrieved from the Internet <URL:http://www.cs.brown.edu/th/papers/HofmannPuzicha-IJCAI99.pdf>, retrieved on May 7, 2004

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W. J. Hutchins, "The Concept of 'Aboutness' in Subject Indexing," presented April 18, 1977, Chapter 3 - Key Concepts, pgs. 93 - 97, Found in: Readings in Information Retrieval, Edited by Karen Sparck Jones and Peter Willett, Morgan Kaufmann Publishers, Inc., San Francisco, CA, 1997

The references below were of record in a patent application no. 09/848,982 owned by the current assignee. That application's abstract is set forth below to provide the Examiner with an indication of the subject matter of that application and, accordingly, an indication of the nature of the references:

Abstract: A system, method, and computer program product perform text equivalencing. The text equivalencing is performed by modifying a string of characters by applying a set of heuristics, comparing the modified strings of characters to known strings of characters. If a match is found, the text equivalencing engine performs database update and exits. If no match is found, sub-strings are formed by grouping together frequently occurring sets of characters. An information retrieval technique is performed on the sub-strings to determine equivalent text.

Patent Documents

<u>Document Number</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Document Number</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>
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4,384,329	05/17/83	Rosenbaum, et al.	6,026,398	04/15/00	Brown, et al.
4,833,610	05/23/89	Zamora, et al.	6,035,268	03/07/00	Carus, et al.
5,062,143	10/29/91	Schmitt	6,105,022	08/15/00	Takahashi, et al.
5,182,708	01/26/93	Ejiri	6,131,082	10/10/00	Hargrave, III, et al.
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The references below were of record in a patent application no. 10/167,807 owned by the current assignee. That application's abstract is set forth below to provide the Examiner with an indication of the subject matter of that application and, accordingly, an indication of the nature of the references:

Abstract: A system, method, and computer program product retrieve information associated with the signals.

The information retrieval can be performed on a signal by quantizing the signal, forming words, and indexing based on weights of the words. The words are formed by grouping letters together to form a number of words within predetermined threshold values. The weights of the words are determined using a binomial log likelihood ratio analysis. The present invention may be applied to identification of an unknown song.

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The references below were of record in a patent application no. 10/004,278 owned by the current assignee. That application's abstract is set forth below to provide the Examiner with an indication of the subject matter of that application and, accordingly, an indication of the nature of the references:

Abstract: Improved techniques for enhancing, associating, and linking various sources of metadata for music files, to allow integration of commercially generated metadata with user-entered metadata, and to ensure that metadata provided to the user is of the highest quality and accuracy available, even when the metadata comes from disparate sources having different levels of credibility. The invention further provides improved techniques for identifying approximate matches when querying metadata databases, and also provides improved techniques for accepting user submissions of metadata, for categorizing user submissions according to relative credibility, and for integrating user submissions with existing metadata.

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The references below were of record in a patent application no. 10/406,799 owned by the current assignee. That application's abstract is set forth below to provide the Examiner with an indication of the subject matter of that application and, accordingly, an indication of the nature of the references:

Abstract: Improved techniques for enhancing, associating, and linking various sources of metadata for music files, to allow integration of commercially generated metadata with user-entered metadata, and to ensure that metadata provided to the user is of the highest quality and accuracy available, even when the metadata comes from disparate sources having different levels of credibility. The invention further provides improved techniques for identifying approximate matches when querying metadata databases, and also provides improved techniques for accepting user submissions of metadata, for categorizing user submissions according to relative credibility, and for integrating user submissions with existing metadata.

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The references below were of record in a patent application no. 10/132,974 owned by the current assignee. That application's abstract is set forth below to provide the Examiner with an indication of the subject matter of that application and, accordingly, an indication of the nature of the references:

Abstract: A method for sampling of streaming data for distribution on a network (e.g., the Internet) includes receiving the streaming data (which includes periodically updated information items) from a streaming data source. The periodically updated information items of the streaming data are subsequently sampled using a sampling process based on a total update rate of the streaming data (U_a) and a capacity of the network (C), thereby creating a sampled data stream. Alternatively, the periodically updated information items of the streaming data can be sampled using a sampling process that is also based on the importance (K_{qmin}) of each of the periodically updated information items and the update rate (U_q) of each of the periodically updated information items to create the sampled data stream. The sampled data stream is then distributed on the network (e.g., the Internet or a private area network).

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Response to March 28, 2007 Non-Final Office Action

The references below were of record in a patent application no. 11/117,620 owned by the current assignee. That application's abstract is set forth below to provide the Examiner with an indication of the subject matter of that application and, accordingly, an indication of the nature of the references:

Abstract: Files are divided into parts and at least some of the parts are transmitted to a client using a communication channel. At least some of the transmitted parts are cached locally. This allows subsequent streaming playback of the file while using less bandwidth by transmitting the part of the file that hasn't been cached, and combining the cached parts with the transmitted parts. In some embodiments, files may be represented at a low quality level by a first data set, and at higher quality levels with additional data sets. Data sets are cached locally, so that during subsequent streaming playback of the file, the quality level of the playback may be improved by sending additional data sets using bandwidth that would otherwise be dedicated to transmitting the cached data sets.

Patent Documents

<u>Document Number</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Document Number</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>
4,384,329	05/17/83	Rosenbaum, et al.	2001/0042109	11/15/01	Bolas, et al.
5,182,708	01/26/93	Ejiri	2001/0044855	11/22/01	Vermeire, et al.
5,303,302	04/12/94	Burrows	2002/0002039	01/03/02	Qureshey, et al.
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The references below were of record in a patent application no. 10/291,210, patent no. 7,024,485 owned by the current assignee. That application's abstract is set forth below to provide the Examiner with an indication of the subject matter of that application and, accordingly, an indication of the nature of the references:

Abstract: Files are divided into parts and at least some of the parts are transmitted to a client using a communication channel. At least some of the transmitted parts are cached locally. This allows subsequent streaming playback of the file while using less bandwidth by transmitting the part of the file that hasn't been cached, and combining the cached parts with the transmitted parts. In some embodiments, files may be represented at a low quality level by a first data set, and at higher quality levels with additional data sets. Data sets are cached locally, so that during subsequent streaming playback of the file, the quality level of the playback may be improved by sending additional data sets using bandwidth that would otherwise be dedicated to transmitting the cached data sets.

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The references below were of record in a patent application no. 09/780,962 owned by the current assignee. That application's abstract is set forth below to provide the Examiner with an indication of the subject matter of that application and, accordingly, an indication of the nature of the references:

Abstract: A system for detecting digitized content and selecting matches from a master verification database. The detection of digitized content is performed using a verification database which contains a master table of contents identifiers and songprints for corresponding digitized content. A network server is programmed to receive selections of a table of contents identifiers from computers, and to request selections of songprint identifiers from the computers and selects matches from the master verification database.

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The references below were of record in a patent application no. 09/360,901 owned by the current assignee. That application's abstract is set forth below to provide the Examiner with an indication of the subject matter of that application and, accordingly, an indication of the nature of the references:

Abstract: A geographic information transfer method and system is described. The method includes receiving at a host system server data describing a client computer's connection to a computer network, querying a database to obtain geographic data associated with the received data, and transmitting localized information from the host system to the client computer based on the geographic data. A geographic cookie file may be generated and written to a client computer for future use. The geographic cookie file may be used to transmit localized data or to block transmission of data to a specified geographic location.

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